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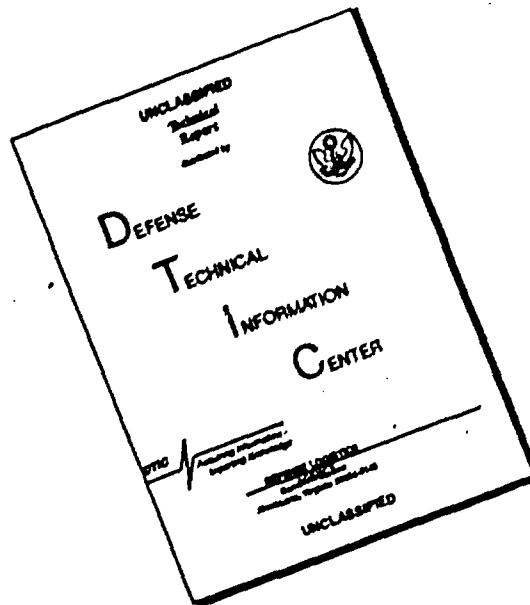
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AGDA (M) (16 Oct 69) FOR OT UT 693286

22 October 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group, Period Ending 31 July 1969

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as

*Kenneth G. Wickham*

KENNETH G. WICKHAM  
Major General, USA  
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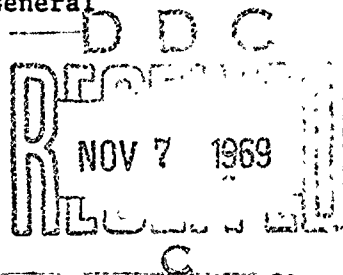
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS 34TH ENGINEER GROUP (CONST)  
APO San Francisco 96320

EGF-OP

1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 34th Engineer  
Group (Const) for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS,  
CSI/OR-65 (R1)

Commander-in-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558  
Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96357  
Commanding General, 20th Engineer Brigade, ATTN: AVSI-OS,  
APO 96491

1. Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities

a. Command:

(1) During the reporting period, Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) remained located in Binh Thuy, South Vietnam. The major activities of the Group continued to include operational support to Second Field Force Vietnam (IIFORCEV) and US units in the IV Corps Tactical Zone, road and bridge upgrading (LOC's), providing minimum essential requirements (MER) to relocated units, base construction, quarry operations and support to the Revolutionary Development Program.

(2) Colonel John E Sterling assumed command of the Group on 25 July 1969.

(3) Organization Structure:

(a) On 25 July 1969 the 1st Platoon, 67th Engineer Co (DT) was released from attachment to the 86th Engineer Bn (Cbt) and was further attached to the 93d Engineer Bn (Const). The platoon is presently located in Camp Viking.

(b) On 1 July 1969 the 595th Engineer Co (LE) was released from attachment to the 86th Engineer Bn (Cbt) and further attached to the 18th Engineer Bde.

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(c) On 1 July 1969 the Earthmoving Platoon of C Co, 93d Engr Bn (Const) was attached to the 18th Engr Bde.

(d) The 34th Engr Gp (Const) organization chart of 31 July 1969 is attached as inclosure 1.

(4) Area of Responsibility: During the reporting period there was no change in the Group's AOR. Inclosure 2 portrays the Group AOR.

## b. Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

(1) At the end of the reporting period the strength of the Group was

	<u>O</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUTH	217	39	4513	4769
ASGD	194	31	4586	4811

(2) During the reporting period the Group rotated approximately 26.1% of its total authorized strength. Critical personnel shortages as of 31 July 1969 are listed below:

<u>MOS CODE</u>	<u>JOB DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AUTH</u>	<u>ASGD</u>
05B20	Radio Operator	39	23
12C20	Bridge Specialist	23	7
44A10	Metal Working Apprentice	6	3
51C20/30	Structures Specialist	36	8
51H40	Construction Foreman	117	73
51K20	Plumber	127	49
61B40	Water Craft Operator	2	0
61C20/30	Marine Engineer	4	0
62G40	Quarryman	12	5
62K30	Grader Operator	74	21
63A10	Mechanical Maintenance	29	7
	Apprentice		
63B20/30	Wheeled Vehical Repairman	147	113
76Y40	Armorer/Unit Supply Specialist	40	26
82B40	Chief Construction Surveyor	4	1

(3) 284 personnel extended their foreign service tour during the reporting period.

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(4) The following awards were presented to 34th Engr Gp personnel:

MEDALS

Silver Star	0
Legion of Merit	1
Air Medal	5
Bronze Star Medal with "V" for Valor	1
Bronze Star for Achievement/Service	149
Joint Service Commendation Medal	0
Army Commendation Medal with "V" for Valor	3
Army Commendation Medal for Achievement/Service	363
Purple Heart	42
Certificate of Achievement	47

(5) The following promotions were made during the reporting period: E8 - 0, E7 - 1, E6 - 34, E5 - 594, E4 - 763.

(6) A daily average of 775 Local National Permanent Hire personnel were paid a total of 23,237,508 \$VN during the period for work on projects throughout the Group AOR. A daily average of 281 Local National Daily hire unskilled personnel were paid a total of 3,031,350 \$VN. Both categories continued to serve a useful function by releasing military personnel for more specialized tasks.

(7) The career counselor in the 34th Engr Gp (Const) is SFC Poland. Contemplating many changes in USARV's reenlistment program in the immediate future, the 34th Engr Gp (Const) should continue to excel in its objective of retaining a maximum number of qualified 1st term soldiers. During the reporting period, May - July 69, the Group's 1st term reenlistment rate was 26.3%.

(8) The Group Information Program was carried on by using facilities of the American Broadcasting Corporation in nationwide radio coverage of the 595th Land Clearing Detachment; World News covering National Highway 4 (QL-4); and the USARV Information Office in taped interviews being made of personnel in the field for hometown radio release. The Group's newspaper, The Delta Developer, is continuing to be published every other week, and the circulation has been boosted to

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1,500 copies throughout the battalions. During the reporting period, 952 Home Town News Releases were dispatched to the Army Home Town News Center and 74 stories were forwarded to higher headquarters.

(9) Chaplains Activities:

(a) Although battalion chaplains continue to visit men overnight at isolated sites, there are fewer isolated sites for the following two (2) reasons:

1 Onset of the monsoon season.

2 Pull back of the 86th Battalion as a result of its redeployment to CONUS in August.

(b) One problem arising from the redeployment of the 86th Engineer Bn (Cbt) is the uncertainty of assignments of men being reassigned from the 86th to other battalions within the Group. It is felt that the chaplains have met this problem and have given moral support to these men.

(c) Every unit, regardless of its size and location, continues to be given chaplain coverage whenever possible. This coverage is aided by the following factors:

1 Good command support in providing aircraft which chaplains may use to reach men at isolated sites.

2 A concerted effort on the part of unit chaplains to bring services to men in isolated areas.

3 A more aggressive program of company sponsorship of religious services in some units.

4 Three battalion chaplains, new at their jobs in the last reporting period, have adapted to their new situations and have been accepted very well by the men and officers of their units.

(d) Overall chapel attendance has remained relatively constant although some drop in attendance is being felt in units that are returning to base camp areas. It is still believed that men at isolated sites will attend chapel more regularly than men at the secure base camps. This problem

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is also being dealt with by unit chaplains. The providing of more services and at more propitious times are hoped to be possible solutions for the dwindling attendance at base camps in the past few weeks of the reporting period.

(e) All units except HHC, 34th Engineer Gp (Const) have chaplains. One is expected in the unit by mid-August. Coordination of chaplain activities is being carried out by Chaplain (CPT) Gayle Wilson, 35th Engineer Battalion, acting Group Chaplain and by the Group Chaplain's Assistant.

(f) No unusual discipline problems have developed during this reporting period.

c. Intelligence and Counter Intelligence: The primary sources of intelligence information within the IV Corps Tactical Zone continue to be the JICSUM from Phong Dinh Province, II FFORCEV PERINTREPS and the USARV Monthly Combat Intelligence and Security Review. Local intelligence is obtained daily from a briefing at the Binh Thuy Airfield. Additional information was received in some cases from the National Police and NILO. Information of enemy incidents, LOC interdiction and damage assessments are monitored by SPO REPS from all subordinate units directly to Group Headquarters.

d. Plans, Operations and Training:

(1) Operational Support: Combat and operational support effort decreased from 49.2% last quarter to 36.0% of the total Group effort this quarter. With the redeployment of the 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) to CONUS and the completion or termination of operational support projects for the 9th Inf Div, combat and operational support effort dropped to 21.7% of the total Group effort during the last week of the quarter.

(a) Airfields: 34th Engr Gp units worked on seven deliberate airfields to improve their ability to accommodate air traffic.

1 Ben Tre Airfield: The 35th Engr Bn (Cbt) repaired the Ben Tre Airfield by replacing portions of the AM-2 matting and the underlying base course.

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2 Can Tho Airfield: The 69th Engr Bn (Const) repaired the Can Tho Airfield by replacing 800LF and welding breaks in the M8A1 matting.

3 Cao Lanh Airfield: The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) upgraded the Cao Lanh Airfield by upgrading overruns, pennepriming the shoulders, replacing matting and constructing ammo bunkers.

4 Dong Tam Airfield: The 93d Engr Bn (Const) upgraded the Dong Tam Airfield by replacing the entire runway with asphalt pavement and by extending the runway 600LF on one end and 100LF on the other.

5 Moc Hoe Airfield: The 93d Engr Bn (Const) is currently repairing breaks in the matting and stabilizing soft spots in the runway of Moc Hoa Airfield.

6 Phu Quoc Island: The 69th Engr Bn (Const) welded breaks in the matting and repaired approximately 400 SY of taxiway on the An Thoi Airfield.

7 Vinh Long Airfield: The 36th Engr Bn (Const) is currently increasing the capabilities of the Vinh Long Airfield by constructing 44,000 SY of aircraft parking aprons and 30 UH-1 revetments.

8 34th Engr Gp units have also worked on upgrading various airfields in the IV CTZ that come under the designation Delta Stagefields. Work has been completed at the following Delta Stagefields: Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Ca Mau, Vi Thanh and Binh Duc.

(b) Land Clearing Operations: In support of the 7th ARVN Div and the 9th ARVN Div, the 595th Engr Co's (LE) land clearing detachment cleared a total of 2,531 acres east of My Tho and in Duc Tan and Binh Minh Districts.

(c) Other construction projects in support of DMAG, II FFORCEV units and other units in IV CTZ:

1 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed construction or upgrading of seven fire support bases including FSB Schroeder, Binh Phouc FSB, Rach Kien FSB, Tan Tru FSB, FSB Danger, Ben Luc FSB, and Can Giuoc FSB. Work consisted of constructing

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artillery gun pads, fighting bunkers, troop bunkers, ammo bunkers, berm protection and upgrading road networks.

2 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed work on a 20' x 100' bunkerized messhall at Ben Luc in support of II FFORCEV.

3 The 93d Engr Bn (Const) worked on reconstruction of three 3000 BBL POL storage tanks at Dong Tam. The tanks are bolted steel tanks and are protected by 24' high revetments. They had been destroyed during a rocket and mortar attack.

4 The 93d Engr Bn (Const) completed construction of six observation towers with fighting bunkers, ten 4-man fighting bunkers and a mortar pit with protected ammo storage area at Moc Hoa. Project was in support of DMAC.

5 The 93d Engr Bn (Const) completed upgrade of dustoff pads at Dong Tam by constructing three UH-1 pads with parallel type revetments, and installation of 16 navigational lights, in support of IV CTZ.

6 The 93d Engr Bn (Const) completed construction of 130 LF of 10' high revetment around the ICS site at Sa Dec in support of the 1st Sig Bde.

7 The 93d Engr Bn (Const) completed construction of one 30' x 40' concrete pad for air cushion vehicles at Dong Tam in support of the 9th Inf Div.

8 The 35th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed earth work at an RF training center at Cao Lanh. Work included hauling 18,900 CY of fill for berms, elevated firing line and road net.

9 The 69th Engr Bn (Const) completed upgrade of helicopter ambulance facilities at Binh Thuy. Construction included stabilization of 15,000 SY with sand-cement, construction of 6 UH-1 revetments with M8A1 landing pads, and peneprime entire area for dust suppression.

10 The 69th Engr Bn (Const), in support of IV CTZ, operated an erdlator at Chi Lang from 6 March 69 to 7 June 69. Output was 3000 gal of potable water per day.

11 The 69th Engr Bn (Const) completed construction and

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repair of aircraft revetments at Can Tho is support of the 1st Avn Bde. Work included repair or replacement of 61 various-type aircraft revetments.

12 The 69th Engr Bn (Const) completed construction of MER latrines and showers at Binh Thuy for Binh Thuy Logistical Support Activity (LSA).

13 The 69th Engr Bn (Const) completed construction of signal van revetments at Can Tho for the 1st Sig Bde.

14 The 36th Engr Bn (Const) completed a rock off-loading pier at Vinh Long in support of Saigon Support Command.

15 The 35th Engr Bn (Cbt) started maintenance of the LST landing beach at Binh Thuy for Saigon Support Command.

(d) Bridge Missions:

1 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed the floating collars as part of the Tan An Pier protection.

2 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed construction of a 170' timber trestle bridge south east of Ben Luc.

3 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed the pier protection on the Ben Luc Bridge.

4 The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) completed a total of 108 meters of timber trestle bridging in support of the 9th Inf Div Road Program.

(2) Lines of Communication:

(a) The 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) continued work on Phase I and Phase III upgrade of Long An Province roads until project was turned over to 93d Engr Bn (Const) on 25 July 1969.

(b) The 69th Engr Bn (Const) continued restoration of QL-4 between Binh Minh and Ba Cang. 4500 meters of subbase has been paved with DBST to date.

(c) The 36th Engr Bn (Const) continued restoration of QL-4 between My Thuan and Ba Cang. 7712 meters of road has been paved with DBST to date.

(d) The 35th Engr Bn (Cbt) continued major/minor repair of QL-4 between Can Tho and Soc Trang. 7450 meters has a DBST surface.

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(3) Base Construction:

(a) The 93d Engr Bn (Const) completed the water supply facilities at Dong Tam in support of the 9th Inf Div. Construction included installation of K-wall revetment around the erdator building and construction of an intake basin.

(b) The 93d Engr Bn (Const) initiated construction of cantonment facilities at Tan An in support of the 9th Inf Div. Facilities include 5 ea 20' x 100' buildings, 2 ea 20' x 150' buildings, 4 ea 20' x 200' buildings, and a 40' x 96' Pascoe Warehouse.

(c) The 69th Engr Bn (Const) initiated work on cantonment facilities at Can Tho Airfield in support of the 1st Avn Bde. Work includes construction of a 20' x 108' 80Q. 40' x 78' messhall, a 10,000 gallon water tank and tower, and construction of a generator shed.

(d) The 36th Engr Bn (Const) initiated work on cantonment facilities at Vinh Long in support of the 1st Avn Bde. Facilities include 5 ea 20' x 144' billets.

(e) 34th Engr Gp units completed MACV advisory facilities at the following sites: Cao Lanh, Linh Tuong District, Huong My District, Ben Tranh District and Ham Long. Construction was in support of DMAC.

(4) Construction Support Operations:

(a) Tons of rock produced: 300,000 Tons.

(b) CY of concrete produced: 5,025 CY.

(c) Asphalt purchased: 3,647 Tons.

(5) Design and Construction Engineering:

(a) The Engineering and Plans Section concentrated the majority of its effort in providing subordinate units with technical design assistance and information. Significant projects accomplished during the last quarter include the following: Aircraft revetments were redesigned due to present lumber shortage. The new design utilizes less lumber without sacrificing strength. Bridge designs were reviewed for QL-4

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and the designs for concrete abutments and pier caps were standardized, thus substantially reducing the time required for construction. The Engineering Section devised a method for rehabilitating the damaged rock pier at Vinh Long without interrupting rock delivery. Additional piles were driven on one half the pier at a time thus strengthening the damaged pier substantially without halting off-loading operations. A program aimed at improving rock quality on QL-4 was also investigated during the last quarter. Battalions are required to submit sieve analyses taken from all rock barges arriving at off-load sites in order that rock quality might be constantly monitored. The drafting section has been required to keep a fast pace producing drawings for the above projects. In addition, on a moments notice they have produced and updated charts for Group briefings and revised subordinate unit drawings to meet deadline requirements.

(b) The Soils Team has devoted the majority of its efforts to support of the 35th Engr Bn (Cbt). The team was required to spend long hours on QL-4 taking CBR readings to insure the quality of base course construction. A large number of sieve analyses were also performed on rock arriving at 35th Engr Bn (Cbt) off-loading sites. This effort was in support of a program aimed at improving rock quality through constant testing of rock barges arriving at off-loading piers throughout the delta. The survey team has been employed in support of the 69th Engr Bn (Const) and the 35th Engr Bn (Cbt). The majority of their effort has been concentrated on staking out borrow pits and surveying bridge sites along QL-4. The survey team also supported MACV Advisory Team 97 by completing a detailed survey of the Tan An Training Center north west of Cao Lanh. The survey included the staking out of roads, buildings and ranges, and the production of an all inclusive site plan of the training center. The master plan for the Binh Thuy LSA was also updated through the efforts of the survey team.

(6) Training: During the reporting period, due to the heavy commitment for construction and unit moves, training was limited to mandatory training such as in-country training, processing and those programs required by USARV regulations. Many hours of OJT training were accomplished on the various projects within the Group. This includes the training of ARVN Engineers in the use of rock crushing equipment for the Nui Sam Quarry and training of US personnel of the 36th

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Engr Bn (Const) to operate new LOC equipment received by the Group, thereby enabling personnel to become more proficient in their job and MOS.

e. Logistics: During the reporting period the S-4 office instituted a new method of securing requisitions based upon a need introduced by the computerized 3-SVN system. Prior to the beginning of May, units would submit 2765's to the MRE in Vung Tau who would edit these for proper format and submit them personally to ICC, Vung Tau. The MRE would also make inquiries of TMA to insure prompt shipment of class IV items. After the first week of May the new 3-SVN system was implemented on a trial basis. This is a computerized system from insertion of 2765's to reconciliation print outs by computer. But because the system was new, a double entry system was maintained - one at Long Binh and one at Vung Tau. The purpose was to insure a plan of supplies while "debugging" the computer. At this time the MRE at Vung Tau would edit the cards and forward them to the 490th Gen Support Unit, AT8152, which acting under Saigon Support Command, would place a milstrip number on the requisition. The MRE could not hand carry the cards from the 490th to PA&E who operated the depot. Requisitions stayed at the 490th from 12 to 36 hours before a PA&E courier picked them up. About 11% of all requisitions never reached the depot. At PA&E Vung Tau the cards were again edited. Unusable cards were returned to the 490th and then to the MRE. Status of usable cards was never complete due to lack of time and personnel at the depot. After final editing, PA&E would take the document and key-punch a copy of it. This copy would be kept for 24 to 36 hours and then a courier would take it to Long Binh where it would be fed into the 3-SVN computer. The card stayed at Long Binh for an additional 48 hours being processed. After preprocessing a courier brought it to Vung Tau with a materiel release order if the supplies were at the Vung Tau Depot. If not at Vung Tau, a "due out" would be posted by the computer. No materials were issued at Vung Tau without a computer acknowledgment. Early in May a Saigon Support Command Conference was held in Binh Thuy with all the S-4's of Group attending. The S-4's were told that Group would be allowed to establish our own AT account for class IV supplies at Long Binh. This AT code authorizes out 3rd shops to requisition directly from depot instead of going through the 490th until the new system could be set up in about 180 days or until an AT account

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could be established at Long Binh Depot. Approximately 40 days later the new computer system and out AT account went into full independent operation. The Vung Tau ICC was eliminated as a depot, all assets were under control of Long Binh. The MRE at Vung Tau moved to Long Binh to become accountable officer for the AT code (AT87FT) and in a real sense became a one-man DSU. The AT officer assigns document numbers to the requisitions he receives from the units. He has numbers 7000-7999 of the 69ths account. (The 3rd shop requisitions are valid for anything, not just repair parts). The DSU functions this way: He receives a 2765-1 from a unit. He edits it as to format and assigns a milstrip number to it; sending the first hard copy to depot and 24 hours later receiving status of the card - either due out, back ordered or where released (Long Binh or Vung Tau). The accountable officer sends the second and third copy to the unit so that they have the milstrip number in order to trace the items if necessary. The fourth copy is kept by the DSU in his files. As a comparison of the time frame it now takes only 48 hours from the time the card is produced to assigning a milstrip number and only four days from inception at the unit to receipt of status from the depot. If necessary, status can be gotten in 3 days by phone call. Furthermore, if an item is needed in a real hurry the AT officer can produce the requisition and have the item released in 24 hours. The AT officer also handles processing of command controlled items and reconciliations of class IV supplies.

f. Maintenance: During this quarter, the critical deadline went from a high of 20.7% in May to a low of 11.8% in July. This decline can be primarily attributed to a better supply of repair parts. The percent of fill on requisitions rose from approximately 25% to approximately 40%. Additionally all units began receiving repair parts through project IME. The rainy season began during this period of time which relieved the operational requirements somewhat, allowing a generous amount of man-hours devoted to organizational maintenance.

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1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS, CSFOR-65(R1)

g. 523d Engineer Company (Port Construction):

(1) Command:

(a) The unit remained attached to the 34th Engr Gp (Const), PO 96320.

(b) CPT Lloyd K Brown assumed command on 15 June 1969.

(2) Personnel, Administration, Morale, and Discipline:

(a) At the end of the reporting period the strength was:

	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUTH	9	1	215	225
ASGD	8	0	209	217

(b) During the reporting period, overall strength decreased from 97% to 96%.

(c) A program was continued to encourage outstanding personnel to consider extensions before returning to CONUS. This program produced the following results.

Total Eligible for DEROS	54
Extended Beyond DEROS	22
DERCS	32

(d) No unusual disciplinary problems were reported during this reporting period.

(3) Plans, Operations, and Training:

(a) The 523d Engr Co (PC) during the last quarter, engaged in 81 working days and 8 days of training. The training consisted of classes on pertinent military subjects, personnel hygiene, safety, and familiarization of equipment and weapons.

(b) The principal operation activities taking place during this reporting period are as follows:

1 Phung Hiep Dolphin: This project started 7 April 69. The scope of the project consisted of 4 dolphins made of 3 each 80' H-beam pile with welded "T" bracing. The project was completed by the 2d Construction Plt on 4 May 1969.

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2 Vinh Long Floating Deck: The project was started on 14 April 1969. The scope of the project consisted of the driving of 4 guide pile to move BK barge into position, and driving 2 remaining pile and constructing 4 dolphins. 18 H-Pile 80' long were used. The project was completed by the 1st Plt 523rd Engr Co (PC) on 14 May 1969.

3 Diving Support for Tan An Bridge: The project was started 8 May 1969. The scope of the project consisted of placing diagonal channel iron bracing, bridge protection piles and a chain link fence. The project was completed by the diving section 523rd Engr Co (PC) on 7 August 1969.

4 Dolphins, Rock-Off-Loading Facility-Vinh Long: The project was started on 15 May 1969. The project consisted of the driving of 2 dolphins using 3 hollow pipe pile 110' long and 20" diameter. They were braced by steel plates filled with concrete. A major problem of this project was an incident in which a man was killed by a rocket. The project was completed on 28 June 1969 by 1st Plt 523rd Engr Co (PC).

5 Addition to Soc Trang Rock-Off-Loading Pier: The project was started on 26 May 1969. The scope of the project consisted of removing one existing dolphin and constructing a 24' extension on the pier. Also included in the project was the construction of 4 additional dolphins. The project took a total of 32 pile-28 timber and 4 steel. It was completed by 2nd Plt, 523rd Engr Co (PC) on 15 July 1969.

6 MACV Helipad- Vinh Long: The project consisted of driving 26 pile and placing a deck, cement landing platform, and a ramp to shore. This project was completed by 1st Plt, 523rd Engr Co (PC) on 13 July 1969.

(c) Operational Support Activities: Minor Task Activities were: This unit is tasked to furnish all available support to the 94th Quarry Det for the purpose of producing rock. Normally, 3 dump trucks, 1 front loader, 2 D7E dozers, lowbed, forklift, shop trailer, fuel trucks and a wrecker are furnished. The dump trucks and front loader are furnished on a 24 hour basis. 10 dump truck drivers are also supplied to the 67th Dump Truck Company for utilization on a 24 hour basis.

(4) Logistics:

(a) Since the 9th Infantry Division has begun its redeployment

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portions of the support units have also been reassigned. This seriously affects the remaining unit supply channels. Items necessary for equipment maintenance are hard to obtain.

(b) Small expendable items such as hammers and saws are mission essential and presently unavailable to the unit. Maintenance items, paint and brushes are unobtainable through normal supply channels.

(c) To alleviate some of these problems the document register is being reconciled with our supporting supply unit in hopes that we can determine if any of our requisitions have been cancelled, or if we should reorder these items.

(d) The percentage of receipts has increased on mission essential and small expendable items. This was accomplished by cancelling orders which have been on requisition for between 90 and 180 days and reordering every 60 days.

h. 94th Engineer Detachment (Quarry)

(1) Command:

(a) The 94th Engineer Detachment (Q) is assigned to the 20th Engineer Brigade, APO 96491, and further assigned to the 34th Engineer Group (Const) APO 96320, for operational control.

(b) 1LT Richard S Freshour assumed command on 27 July 1969.

(2) Personnel:

(a) The status of personnel at this unit for the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	<u>O</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUTH	5	1	210	216
ASGD	4	1	236	241

These figures reflect a total increase of 5.5% over the previous reporting period. Extensions during the reporting period were as follows:

Eligible for Extension	31
Extension beyond DEROS	25
Total DEROS	6

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(3) Plans, Operations and Training:

(a) The 94th Engineer Detachment (Q) is engaged in 92 working days and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  days of training. The training consisted of classes on pertinent military subjects including sapper familiarization classes and maintenance classes.

(b) The 94th Engineer Detachment engaged in rock crushing and loading operations during the reporting period, the amount of rock crushed by size is as follows:

3"	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3/4"	3/8"
261,115 tons	2,170 tons	30,310 tons	13,680 tons

During this period the following amounts of rock, by size, were loaded on barges:

3"	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3/4"	3/8"
7,700 tons	665 tons	2,310 tons	4,550 tons

Stockpile as of 31 July 1969 were as follows:

3"	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3/4"	3/8"
138,415 tons	2,750 tons	6,260 tons	445 tons

(c) The operations of the 94th Engineer Detachment were supported by elements of the 67th Engineer Company (DT).

(4) Section 2, Lessons Learned: Commanders Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations.

Air Filter of Rock Crusher Engines.

(a) OBSERVATION: The amount of dust associated with rock crushing operation is such that maintenance service is carefully observed. One of the most basic and frequent of these services is changing the air filter as often as possible. Because of the availability of 5 ton truck-type air filters the crusher's engines have been adapted to accept them.

(b) EVALUATION: The modified system allows the necessary preventive maintenance services to be completed with readily available materials.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: This system has proven so successful that another crusher engine has been adapted to use dump truck air filters.

Blast Rock Production.

(a) OBSERVATION: In a large scale quarry operation the

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production of large amounts of blast rock are requisite for efficient use of plant equipment. Through experience, it was found that it took less time on a foot-drilled-per-minute basis when holes were limited to 20' in depth.

(b) EVALUATION: Overall blast rock production increased significantly.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: The drilling operations are limited to 20' holes in order to obtain maximum production from a unit.

i. 67th Engineer Company (Dump Truck):

(1) Command:

(a) During the reporting period the unit continued to be attached to the 94th Engr Det (Cry) for operational control. The platoon that was attached to the 86th Engr Bn (Cbt) was re-attached to the 93rd Engr Bn (Const).

(b) 1LT Nicholas Vracas assumed command on 14 June 1969.

(2) Personnel:

(a) At the end of the reporting period the personnel strength was:

	<u>O</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
AUTH	3	1	109	113
ASGD	2	1	108	112

(b) During the reporting period 18.6% of the units personnel rotated to CONUS.

(c) During the reporting period there were 9 awards and decorations given to individuals of this unit. There were no IG complaints, 1 class I and 7 Class II offenses and 1 AWOL during this period.

(d) Personnel within the 67th Engr Co (DT) received 6 Delinquency Reports, no Field Grade Article 15's and 8 Company Grade Article 15's.

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2. Section 2, Lessons: Commanders Observations, Evaluations and Recommendations:

- a. Personnel. None
- b. Operations: None
- c. Training. None
- d. Intelligence. None
- e. Logistics. None
- f. Maintenance. None

PROBLEM: The original 3S supply procedures for requisitioning of repair parts did not function properly when processing non-standard (Non FSM item) requisitions.

BACKGROUND: During the period 1 January 1969, the 94th Engineer Detachment (Q) submitted approximately 995 non-standard requisitions. After extensive research, the following conditions were found to exist:

1. Any non-standard requisition submitted by the 94th to their DS (2nd Maintenance Battalion) was logged in a ledger book and passed to the 506th Field Depot (US FLE) without being edited.

2. The non-standard requisitions of the 94th passed by the DS to the depot were seldom heard of again. The 94th received status cards on less than 5% of their non-standard requisitions. Upon checking with the non-standard desk of USAFICG, MAJ Landry and Mr. Hask stated they had not received any non-standard requisitions for the 94th until late May when the unit started hand carrying the requisitions direct, bypassing both their DS and the depot.

3. A sample of 202 non-standard requisitions submitted to the DS by the 94th during the period 9101 to 9145 was researched extensively and the following statistics resulted:

a. The DS Customer Assistance Officer (CAO) acknowledged receipt of 42% of the requisitions submitted. After research, an additional 50% were found to have been received.

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b. Four percent of the requisitions did not arrive at the DS. It could not be determined if they were lost by the 94th or the DS CAO.

c. The 94th had a 4% administrative error on the requisitions submitted, consisting of improper manufacturers code, incorrect part number, or improper spacing of the part number.

d. The DS CAO notified the 94th of conversions for 3.5% of the requisitions from part number to FSN, and the 94th failed to post their stock cards.

e. The DS CAO had not recorded any demand data for non-standard requisitions. The reason given was the parts were not standard in number of digits, the Vietnamese National key punch operators were not consisted in punching non-standard part numbers, and the NCR 500 key punch machines would not accept the variables.

SOLUTION: The following corrective actions taken:

1. The 94th was required to visit the USADLB tech edit section, screen their non-standard PLL and ASL against the Recordak conversion tapes and change all manufacturers part number to FSN that were available.

2. The 94th was to submit a corrected PLL/ASL to the DS for recording on stock record cards of the DS. The 94th is authorized an ASL because of their DS maintenance capability for organic engineer equipment.

3. The DS CAO devised a method of systematically recording non-standard PLL/ASL items on their stock record cards and assisted USADLB in doing the same.

g. Section 2 Lessons Learned:

Operations, Observations, Evaluation, and Recommendations.

Design of shallow water, fast current dolphins:

(1) OBSERVATION: The three steel hollow pipe pile set in a tight triangular configuration have not proven to be satisfactory. These were designed with two pile driven vertically side by side, with the third pile battered and welded rigidly to the other two.

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(2) EVALUATION: This type design has failed for one basic reason. The design made the structure too rigid. This dolphin will not flex enough upon impact to withstand the impact they are given by the ineptitude of tug operators. This design was often filled with concrete which added additional rigidity to the dolphin. Two examples of this type dolphin which were destroyed by barges ramming them at excessive rates of speed were at Vinh Long Rock facility and the Vung Tau Rock Off Loading Piers.

(2) RECOMMENDATION: This unit has studied various types of dolphins and has concluded that the most substantial and flexible dolphin is the nine pile, cable wrapped dolphin. This design is composed of: one steel H-Pile driven in the center with 8 round timber pile driven completely around the H-Pile. This presents a basically round design. These nine pile are then wrapped in two places with six turns of cable. This dolphin design will be used on future projects where applicable until this unit can complete a study of major port facilities which may produce the ideal dolphin design to be used in the harbors and rivers of the Mekong Delta.

2 Incl

- ~~1. Gp Organization Chart~~  
~~2. Gp AOR Map~~

*John E Sterling*  
JOHN E STERLING  
Colonel, CE  
Commanding

Incls wd HQ, DA

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1 - CO, 67th Engr Co

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AVBI-OS (1 Aug 69) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Construction) for the Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS-CSFOR-65(R1)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, 20TH ENGINEER BRIGADE, APO 96491

2 AUG 1969

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam,  
ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96375

1. Submitted in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15, dated 13 April 1968.
2. This headquarters, concurs with the submitted report with the following comment:

Section II, paragraph g, page 19: The nine-pile, cable-wrapped dolphin has proven satisfactory. Recommend a program of instruction for water transportation personnel be initiated to prevent further damage to mooring dolphins.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*[Signature]*  
S. B. KENNEDY

Major, AGC  
Adjutant

Copy Furnished:  
CO, 34th Engr Gp

AVHGC-DST (1 Aug 69) 2d Ind

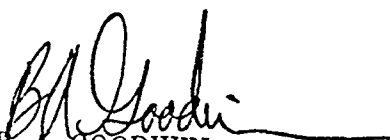
SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const)  
for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 25 SEP 1969

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,  
APO 96558

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 34th Engineer Group (Const) and concurs with the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
B. A. GOODWIN  
CPT, AGC  
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:  
34th Engr Gp  
20th Engr Bde

GPOP-DT (1 Aug 69) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 34th Engineer Group (Const) for  
Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 2 OCT 69

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



D. A. TUCKER  
CPT. AGC  
ASST AG

UNCLASSIFIED

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